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HAVERFORDWEST

MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR

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1960

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1960

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CONSTITUTION OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEES 1960/61

His Worship The Mayor:- The Very Rev.E.J.Green.M.M.,V.F.

Deputy Mayor:- Councillor.Lt.Col.R.F.Foster.TD.DL.CC.

Sherriff:- Councillor.C.B.James. C.C.

Chairman-Public Health Committee:- Alderman.Capt.R.G.Noott.J.P.

Chairman- Housing Committee:- Alderman.L.H.Ellis.

Chairman - Water Committee:- Councillor.Lt.Col.R.F.Foster.TD.DL.CC.

Chairman - Finance Committee:- Councillor.R.D.Jones.

Chairman - Borough Committee:- Councillor.C.B.James.C.C.

Other Members of the Council:-

Alderman.L.T.Fisher.
Alderman.Claude.E.Davies. MM.
Councillor.J.A.Harries.
Councillor.C.T.Price.
Councillor.A.T.E.Kersey.
Councillor.Capt.Dilwyn Miles. C.C.
Councillor. Colin. O'Dare.
Councillor.Rev.R.E.Williams.
Councillor.E.Smart.
Councillor.Lt.Col.W.Barrett.M.B.E.

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OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

		Date of Appointment
Town Clerk & Solicitor.	R. Ivor Rees.	23. 10. 45
Deputy Town Clerk	W.Leslie Gibbon.	23. 1. 20.
Surveyor & Engineer.	J.B.Hemingway.F.R.I.C.S. M.I.Mun.E.,M.R.S.H.	1. 10. 47.
Deputy Surveyor & Engineer.	H.Ivor Thomas.A.M.I.Mun.E	1. 3. 47.
Borough Treasurer.	F.R.Lowther. F.C.A.	1. 4. 24.
Chief Public Health Inspector.	D.B.Evans.M.A.P.H.I.	20. 6. 38
Addl.Public Health Inspector.	G.W.Cole. M.A.P.H.I.	22. 3. 55
Medical Officer of Health.	Dr.W.J.Y.Speedy.M.B., B.Ch.,L.R.C.P.& S.,L.R.F.P.& S. D.P.H.	1. 10. 47

General Information.

Offices.

Town Clerk. Surveyor & Public Health Department.

Picton House. 2 Picton Place. Haverfordwest.
Telephone. Haverfordwest 3288.

Borough Treasurer.

Old Council Chambers. St Mary Street. Haverfordwest.
Telephone. Haverfordwest 2187.

Medical Officer of Health.

District Health Office. County Offices. Haverfordwest.
Telephone. Haverfordwest 3131.

Population 8,390. (Mid 1960)

Rateable Value £111,912.

Acreage 1,420.

PREFACE TO THE REPORT.

District Health Office
County Offices.
Haverfordwest.

July, 1961.

To:- His Worship The Mayor,
Aldermen & Members of the
Haverfordwest Borough Council.

Mr Mayor & Gentlemen,

I present my Report upon matters appertaining to the Public Health of the Borough, for the year 1960.

Full details will be found in the body of the Report. The main items are summaried as follows:-

POPULATION.

The gradual upward trend in population continues, the present figure being 8,390, an increase of 1,234 since 1947.

BIRTHS.

The Birth Rate was the second highest over the past 13 years, and has maintained the high rate of over 20.0 per thousand population, which has appertained during the past five years.

There was an increase in Still-births, and a decrease in Illegitimate Births over the preceding year.

DEATHS.

The General Death-rate was lower than both the County and National Rates, being 11.1/1000 population.

There was a reduction in Cancer deaths, but an increase in Accidental deaths.

There have been no deaths due to Tuberculosis since 1953.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was a low incidence of Infectious Disease during the year, the largest item being 15 cases of Sonne Dysentery.

Only 1 fresh case of Tuberculosis was notified, no serious Infectious Disease was notified.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

The statistics for the Borough, as a whole, can be considered most satisfactory.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

Sampling of Milk, Water & Ice-Cream continued during the year. The results of sampling can be considered satisfactory.

As a general rule, the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations are being met, no cases of Food Poisoning were notified.

There is a tide of housing need building up in the Borough, due chiefly to a lull in the Housing Programme for the years 1957 - 1959. Sixty dwellings were expected to be completed during the year 1960, but the actual figure was forty six. One of the most serious needs is the housing of elderly folk.

The General Sanitary state of the Borough is reasonably good, and should be considerably improved with the completion of the new major drainage scheme.

CONCLUSION.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council, and Heads of Departments, and their Staff, for their continued courtesy and co-operation.

You will appreciate that the Routine Public Health Matters are attended to efficiently by your Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr D.B.Evans, and his Assistant, Mr G.W.Cole.

I remain

Your obedient servant

Medical Officer of Health.

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VITAL STATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Summary of Vital Statistics

Estimated Mid-year (1960) Population	= 8,390
General Death Rate	= 11.1/1000 population
General Birth Rate	= 25.3/ " "
Cancer Death Rate	= 1.5/ " "
Infant Mortality Rate	= 28.1/1000 Births.
Tuberculosis Death Rate	= Nil

Comparative Population Table.

Year.	Population	Natural Increase or Decrease
1947	7,156	+104
1948	7,220	+ 46
1949	7,300	+ 37
1950	7,380	+ 37
1951	7,255	+ 31
1952	7,284	+ 36
1953	7,500	+159
1954	7,600	+ 41
1955	7,890	+ 82
1956	7,940	+ 99
1957	8,210	+100
1958	8,230	+101
1959	8,310	+121
1960	8,390	+120

BIRTHS & BIRTH RATES

Classification of Births.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	108	103	211
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	109	104	213

Still Births

Male. = 7
Female. = 1 Total = 8

General Birth Rates.

General Birth Rate for Borough for 1960 = 25.3/1000 population.
General Birth Rate for Pembrokeshire " = 18.7/ " "
General Birth Rate England & Wales " = 17.1/ " "

Still Birth Rates.

Still Birth Rate for Borough for 1960 = 36.0/1000 Total Births
Still Birth Rate for Pembrokeshire " = 28.9 " " "
Still Birth Rate England & Wales " = 19.7 " " "

Illegitimate Birth Rates.

Illegitimate Birth Rate for Borough for 1960 = 9.3/1000 Live Births
Illegitimate Birth Rate for Pembrokeshire " =41.6/ " " "
Illegitimate Birth Rate England & Wales " =54.0/ " " "

Comparative Table.

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Illegitimate Births.	Birth Rate.
1948	139	3	13	19.6
1949	131	2	3	18.2
1950	125	3	5	16.9
1951	117	1	3	16.1
1952	119	8	4	16.3
1953	140	2	7	17.8
1954	143	8	10	17.6
1955	160	1	5	18.7
1956	180	3	9	20.9
1957	185	4	2	20.5
1958	192	3	6	21.2
1959	213	4	5	26.2
1960	213	8	2	25.3

Discussion on Birth Statistics

The General Birth Rate was high, being much greater than the National & County Rates.

The number of still births was unusually high, on the other hand there was a marked reduction in the number of Illegitimate births.

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(3)

(9)

DEATHS & DEATHS RATES.

Classification of Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total
Diseases of Heart & Circulatory System	23	21	44
Diseases of Brain & Nervous System	2	12	14
Cancer (all forms)	4	9	13
Infant Deaths	5	1	6
Violent Deaths	3	2	5
Diseases of Respiratory System	1	4	5
Diseases of Kidneys & Urinary System	1	2	3
Diseases of the Blood	1	1	2
Diseases of Digestive System	0	1	1
	40	53	93

Deaths in Age Groups:-

0 - 1 years	= 6	30 - 50 years	= 4
1 - 15 "	= 0	50 - 70 "	= 29
15 - 30 "	= 1	70 + "	= 53

General Death Rates.

Death Rate for Borough for 1960 = 11.1/1000 population.
Death Rate for Pembrokeshire " = 12.4/ " "
Death Rate England & Wales " = 11.5/ " "

Cancer Mortality.

Classification of Cancer Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Abdominal	1	4	5
Respiratory	2	3	5
Others	1	2	3
	4	9	13

Age-groups:- 30 - 50 years = 1
50 - 70 " = 7
70 + " = 5

Cancer Death Rates.

Cancer Death Rate for Borough for 1960 = 1.5/1000 population.
Cancer Death Rate England & Wales " = 2.16 " "

Violent Deaths.

Classification.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Home Accidents.	1	0	1
Road Accidents	2	0	2
Drowning	0	1	1
Suicide.	0	1	1
	3	2	5

Infant Mortality.

Classification of Infant Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Prematurity	3	1	4
Development Defects	1	1	2
	4	2	6

Age-group: All in period 0 4 weeks.

Infant Mortality Rates.

Infant Mortality Rate for Borough for 1960 = 28.1/1000 Live Births
Infant Mortality Rate for Pembrokeshire " = 29.1/ " " "
Infant Mortality Rate England & Wales " = 21.7/ " " "

Tuberculosis Mortality

Nil for 1960.

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	No. of Cancer Deaths			Violent Deaths				Infant Deaths	
			Respiratory.	Others.	Total.	Home Acc.	Road Acc.	Others	Tot	No.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1948	93	12.8	-	-	15	-	-	-	2	5	35.9/1000 live Births.
1949	94	12.9	1	12	13	2	-	1	3	5	38.1/ " "
1950	88	11.9	3	14	17	-	-	-	3	4	32.0/ " "
1951	86	11.9	1	13	14	2	1	1	4	3	17.6/ " "
1952	83	11.3	1	13	14	1	1	-	2	3	25.2/ " "
1953	81	10.8	3	14	17	-	-	3	3	1	7.1/ " "
1954	104	13.4	1	20	21	3	2	3	8	4	27.6/ " "
1955	78	8.9	4	10	14	2	-	1	3	1	6.2/ " "
1956	81	10.9	4	12	16	2	1	-	3	4	22.2/ " "
1957	85	11.5	1	7	8	1	-	-	1	2	10.8/ " "
1958	91	11.6	1	17	18	5	2	2	9	2	10.4/ " "
1959	97	11.6	1	17	18	2	1	-	3	6	27.5/ " "
1960	93	11.1	5	8	13	1	2	2	5	6	28.1/ " "

Discussion of Mortality Statistics

The General Death Rate compared very favourably with the National & County Rates. There was a reduction over the previous year in the number of Cancer Deaths. The Cancer Death Rate is much lower than the National Rate. There was a small increase in the number of accidental deaths. The Infant Mortality Rate was higher than the National Rate, but compares favourably with the County Rate. There have been no deaths registered as due to Tuberculosis, in the Borough, since 1953.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence.

The following Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Measles.	1	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	0	1	1
Dysentery	3	12	15
Scarlet Fever	2	-	2
	6	15	21

There was a very low incidence of Infectious Diseases, apart from Dysentery. The number of cases of Dysentery, was larger than usual, but it was of a the mild Sonne type.

Comparative Infectious Disease Table.

Year-	'48	'49	'50	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56	'57	'58	'59	'60
Measles	11	4	6	252	1	70	0	39	30	81	177	6	3
Whooping Cough	15	37	0	28	11	2	17	8	0	47	1	4	0
Scarlet Fever	2	2	2	5	3	4	2	3	11	0	2	7	2
Pneumonia	0	0	2	0	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0	8	0	0	3	4	6	0	0	1	15
Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebrospinal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Tuberculosis

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There was one fresh case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, female, age group 30-50 years.

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis registered.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

No fresh cases or deaths during the year.

Tuberculosis Comparative Table.

Year.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	
	Fresh Cases.	Deaths.	Fresh Cases.	Deaths.
1948	10	3	1	1
1949	7	3	1	0
1950	1	2	2	2
1951	8	3	2	1
1952	2	0	2	0
1953	1	3	0	0
1954	2	0	1	1
1955	5	0	1	0
1956	2	0	0	0
1957	3	0	0	0
1958	6	0	0	0
1959	2	0	1	0
1960	1	0	0	0

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ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE & SANITATION

MILK SUPPLIES.

Routine Sampling of Milk continued during the year. Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, for testing & reports. The following is a summary of the sampling results:-

General Bacteriological.

	Satisfactory.	D'ful.	Unsatisfactory.	Tot.
General consumer.	24	0	3	27
Schools.	72	0	9	81
Total	96	0	12	108

This represents 88% Satisfactory results.

Milk Retailers.

There are 8 milk distributors in the Borough, 7 of whom sell pasteuried milk supplied by the Dried Milk Factory at Merlins Bridge.

Milk Regulations.

Issue of Licenses, and control of milk supplies and sampling, pass to the Food & Drugs Authority, i.e. the Pembrokeshire County Council.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Sources of Supply.

1. PRESCELLY.

The Prescelly gathering grounds and impounding Reservoir (capacity - 160,000,000 gallons) are situated in North East Pembrokeshire. As a constitutent member of the Presecly Water Board, the Borough has an allocation from this source. The present allocation is 400,000 gallons per day. This water is a typical upland surface water, being soft and somewhat acid. It is ralatively free from pollution, and passes through a modern filtration and chlorination plant before entering the trunk main. The Chemical and Bacteriological condition of the Water is controlled at source by routine sampling, (organised by the Engineer of the Preselly Water Board).

2. CROWHILL.

This is a shallow well on the Western Bank of the Western Cleddau, situated approximately one mile from the Borough. The supply is fluctuating, but the average 91,000 gallons per day can be provided from this source. This supply is used as an auiliary to augment the main supply.

GENERAL.

Average daily consumption in Borough in 1960 = 498,000 gallons

Average daily consumption per head population=1960 = 59.3 gallons.

No. of new premises connected during 1960 = 36
No. of renewals of old connections " = 21

% premises in Borough connected to Main supply = 99.8%

SAMPLING.

Routine general bacteriological sampling continued during the year. Samples were forwarded to Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen for testing.

Results of samlping are as follows:-

Satisfactory	= 38		
Doubtful	= 0		
Unsatisfactory	= 2	Total	= 40.

This represents 95% Satisfactory samples.

FOOD CONTROL.

Food Stuffs Condemned during the Year.

Tinned Products.

Tinned Meats	=	160
Tinned Fruits	=	171
Tinned Vegetables	=	133
Tinned Milk	=	28
Total.		492

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables

Oranges, peaches, apples, tomatoes, etc = 641lbs.

Frozen Foods.

A considerable ammount of frozen foodstuffs was condemned during the year, due to break-down in refrigeration at place of storage. Items include fish, vegetables, & meat products.

Unsound Food.

Several complaints of unsound food were investigated during the year. Warning letters were sent to persons concerned.

Inspection of School canteen kitchens resulted in hygienic improvements for preparation of food.

ICE-CREAM.

Routine general bacteriological sampling continued during the year. Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen. The results of sampling were as follows:-

Grade I.	(Highly Satisfactory)	= 82
Grade II.	(Satisfactory)	= 17
Grade III.	(Doubtful)	= 5
Grade IV.	(Unsatisfactory)	= 4
	Total	=108.

There is one Producer/Retailer in the Borough, and 47 Retailers. Most of the Ice-Cream is prepacked.

Fish and Chip Shops.

There are 6 of these in the Borough. All are well maintained and comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Mineral Water Factory.

One in the Borough, well maintained.

Hotels, Cafes, Restaurants.

There are 6 Hotels, 10 Cafes & Restaurants, 5 tea bars, and 3 mobile canteens in the Borough. General standard of hygiene is satisfactory.

Bakehouses.

There are 6 of these in the Borough. Routine inspections are carried out, the general hygiene is satisfactory.

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MEAT INSPECTION

Routine Meat inspection was maintained at the Slaughter-house during the year.

Summary of Animals killed.

	Ordinary.	Reactors.	Total.
Steers & Bulls.	2,503	43	2,546
Cows.	337	196	533
Calves.	115	11	126
Sheep & Lambs	11,057	-	11,057
Pigs.	4,464	-	4,464
Private Bacons.	294	-	294
			19,020

Whole Carcases Condemned.

Tuberculosis	=	2
Cysticercosis	=	0
Other Causes	=	77
Total	=	79

Partial Condemnation.

Tuberculosis	=	141
Cysticercosis	=	34
Other causes	=	601
Total	=	776

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.

There are 131 premises in the Borough registered under the Factories & Workshops Acts.

102 inspections were carried out during the year.

Factories Act.
Part I of the Act

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	No. of Written notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 enforced by L.A.	37	32	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	74	51	Nil	Nil.
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	20	19	Nil	Nil
Total	131	102		

Part VIII of the Act, Sections 110 & 111

Nature of work.	No. of outworkers on list.	No. in default.	Prosecutions.	Col 5	Col 6	Col 7
Outworkers Wearing apparel.	3	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOUSING.

Council Housing Summary - 1960.

Pre-war			= 248
Post-war			
	1946/47	= 50	
	1948	= 20	
	1949	= 42	
	1950	= 36	
	1951	= 47	
	1952	=103	
	1953	=130	
	1954	= 93	
	1955	=101	
	1956	= 43	
	1957	= 30	
	1958	= 10	
	1959	= 2	
	1960	= 46	= 753
Miscellaneous			= 7
	Total		1008

Private Building.

No of Private houses erected or under course of construction in 1960 = 32

Improvement Grants - 1960

	Discretionary.	Standard.	Total
1.No of applications.	27	4	31
2.No. ofapplications rejected, withdrawn or refused.	17	1	18
3.No. in progress	15	0	15
4.No. not commenced.	9	0	9

Housing Demand and Need.

At 31st December 1960 the following applications were in hand for Council re-housing:-

Ordinary Rental	=	160
Ability to Pay	=	26
Old Peoples Bungalows	=	65
Total	=	251.

General.

1 Certificate of Disrepair issued during the year.

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GENERAL SANITATION & HYGIENE

Rodent Control.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year:-

Surveys.			
	Dwelling Houses	=	654
	Business Premises.	=	189
	Local Authority.	=	33
	Agricultural.	=	29
	Old Refuse Tip.	=	3
	New " "	=	3
	Total	=	911

Treatment.

	Rats.	Mice.	Total.
Dwelling Houses.	89	128	217
Business Premises	24	12	36
Local Authority	15	4	19
Sewers	2	-	2
Old Refuse Tip	1	-	1
New " "	1	-	1
	132	144	276

Refuse Collection & Disposal.

Household refuse is collected twice weekly by 2 side-loading refuse vehicles. Hours of collection are sometimes irregular, leading to bins being left on the highway for unduly long periods. This in turn is liable to give rise to some nuisance.

There has been considerable improvement in the standard of refuse bins used by householders, but the position could still be further improved.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping in the new Priory Saltings Tip. A certain ammount of earth is used to cover refuse, but falls short of recognised controlled tipping.

The Tip is periodically treated for fly & rodent infestation.

Disinfection & Disinfestation

The following is a summary of this work during the year:-

2 Council Houses fumigated after Infectious Disease.
1 Ward at Hospital fumigated after Infectious Disease.

34 Disinfestations for Ants.
11 " " Cockroaches.
2 " " Wasps.

Clean Air Act

Several minor complaints of fumes & smoke dealt with during the year. No statutory action taken.

General Nuisances.

Several complaints of choked and defective drains & flooding, keeping of poultry, etc, dealt with during the year.

There has been some improvement in the pollution of the river, due to oil & general dumping.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Certain parts of the Borough still continue to be plagued by itinerant Caravan dwellers. Informal action taken on several occasions, but until formal action is taken little progress can be made.

The proposed joint & controlled site (with the Haverfordwest Rural District Council) for itinerant caravans has not yet materialised.

PET SHOPS.

There is one licensed pet-shop in the Borough. This is routinely inspected. No adverse comments to make.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary is situated in St Thomas Green, and is used and maintained jointly with the Haverfordwest Rural District Council.

The building is old, and although considerably improved some years ago, still falls a good deal short of the standard of modern mortuaries.

National Assistance Act.

Burial of a Polish National was instituted by the Council. Also one aged person, in need of care and attention was transferred from a Council House to an Old Person's Home.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage flow from approximately 80% of the built up portion of the Borough, together with the sewage flow from certain adjacent areas of the Haverfordwest Rural District is disposed of in crude form into the River Cleddau.

The Western section of the Borough is drained to the partial treatment works at Merlin's Bridge, operated jointly by the Borough and Rural District.

The Council has agreed, in principle, to a new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme. Following a Public Inquiry, the Welsh Board of Health has given approval for the scheme.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are 5 Public Conveniences in the Borough, and the public was reasonably well catered for in this respect.

A further convenience in the Quay Street area, however, would be desirable.

There were several complaints during the year regarding the state of some of the smaller conveniences. Unattended Conveniences are difficult to maintain in a clean condition. Both for the dignity and health of the Borough, the maintenance of Conveniences in a hygienic state should be a priority.

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